

Mr. Paul Hoch
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4/23/87

Dear Paul,

Although the time taken each day in following doctors' orders leaves little time for writing, I'm trying to do a little of it. There are some records I remember clearly enough but cannot locate in my separate subject file of duplicate copies and I'm not physically able to search for because my ability to stand is so limited. If you can provide copies or give me their arbitrary CIA numbers it would be a great help. Copies more so!

In the earlier CIA releases there was a series of exchanges with the Mexico City station relating to Alvarado Ugarte. What I'm interested in are those that seem to indicate that the station was bypassing hq and leaning directly on the White House and those reflecting Ambassador Mann's views and I think desires. Then hq ordered the station to break the link down, which it did.

Also in those earlier releases was at least one record that struck me as atypical. Hq. directed the station to try and prevent (another?) beating up of Silvia Duran. (I then wondered about the CIA's compassion and that led me to wonder if she was finking for it. Her failure to appear before HSCA increased my wonder.) It is my recollection that it was the local or federal cops that beat her up earlier.

Of early date but later disclosure there was a so-called analysis by a defector, possibly KGB, that was pretty paranoid, about KGB complicity with Oswald or his imagined plans or intentions. It was about 6-7 pages long and I thought wild.

There came a time when the CIA drafted questions to be asked of the USSR. My impression then was that what the CIA drafted was extraordinary and was clearly designed to offend the USSR and turn it off, or discourage production of anything. State's objections were also clear.

In the FBI's Little Rock disclosures to you there was an SAC memo of a phone call from FBIHQ about two weeks after the assassination. He'd been told not to investigate further unless there was indication of a conspiracy with Oswald.

All of these I've read and know exist but can't stand in front of the drawers holding all those records to search for them. Something else that may not exist in disclosed records but I'm interested in if you know of such records is Operation Strongback, also in the WC hearings as two words. I believe it was an operation against Sukarno in Indonesia. Do you have or know anything about that? And do you know what carrier was used in it? Was it the Wasp?

Hope all is well with you and yours and that those beautiful girls are growing more beautiful in every way.

If you've not heard, Gandolfo is doing a book on HSCA that Cutler is having printed for him. Ted says it is about done. Jimmy Ray's book is overdue. Gandolfo has introduced Garrison's book to Ray's publisher, St. Andrews Press. Its honcho is on the lam, avoiding arrest for something or other, according to Ted. If you've not heard, Wecht is preparing for the 25th with the collaboration of Pitt's political science department. Gary Mack says they have a new kind of film they'll be using in attempting enhancement of Moorman's, prints from Tink and me. I don't know if the feud between Gary and Hurt has run its course or not. Haven't heard from Henry in some time. Bud was here last week, took us to lunch, and he looks fine.

Thanks and best to you all,

H. Hoch